

High School Players of the Week

Maryland

Jim Peterson

Walter Johnson

Jim Peterson of Walter Johnson says proudly that his teammates have "intestinal fortitude." He should know.

The 5-foot-11, 150-pound redhead, who plays both ways so he is "always ready to make the big play" did just that Saturday as the Spartans surprised previously undefeated Woodward, 24-0.

"It's hard going both ways but I like it," said Peterson, an offensive tailback and defensive halfback. "Sometimes I get tired but I keep pushing on."

Peterson exemplified that Saturday. The senior rushed for 120 yards and one touchdown, completed two touchdown passes on options, and stopped a Woodward drive 10 yards short of a score with an interception.

"He's got a lot of guts," said head coach Jim Kline, "he likes to stick people. . . . He has the plain desire to play. I just can't say enough about the kid."

"I'm not afraid to run into them (bigger opponents). I run as hard as I can. When someone hits me, it just makes me run harder."

"We were really out to get them," continued Peterson, of Saturday's game. "They really thought they were good. But after we started getting the momentum there was nothing they could do."

Peterson had thrown once earlier this season but it was intercepted. Peterson said Saturday he "felt like I had a pretty good touch. I figured it would work. I don't have a very strong arm but I can throw short pretty accurately." Peterson's touchdown passes were 15 and five yards, both to Kevin York.

An avid golfer who shoots in the low 80s, Peterson "has improved a whole lot from last year," noting better spend and the ability to pick holes better.

"He tackles well and is a good pass defender," said Kline. "He gets the job done. He's just a hard-nosed kid."

—Stan Rappaport

Virginia

Harvey Garner

Wakefield

What a difference a year and 21 pounds make.

Harvey Garner had a problem last year. He played defensive tackle, infrequently, for Wakefield High School. "Last year he wasn't too confident of his game," first-year coach Bruce Hanson said.

Things have changed, however. "I've rarely seen him get beat this year," Hanson continued. "I love the way Harvey plays football. He's always coming up the big play."

A perfect example came Friday night. Garner tackled Stuart's Ray Friday on a two-point conversion attempt that would have given No. 2 ranked and undefeated Stuart an 8-6 victory. It came with less than four minutes to play.

"I thought they had it," Hanson said. "I saw a pretty good hole. I just sort of cringed. I didn't know what to think. Then the first thing I saw was our kids jumping up and the ref crossing his hands." Wakefield won, 7-6.

"Harvey was playing inside tackle on the play," Hanson said, "and they ran out by the end. He must have really moved to get there. He just read it perfectly."

The reason he was able to get there so quickly? Simple. Weight—or the loss of it. After playing at 216 pounds last year, he's slimmed down to 195. The results have been noticeable. "It's because of the weight he lost," Hanson said of his defensive cocaptain's newfound skill. "He's quicker and has more stamina. You don't have to coach him as much as last year."

Last year he would tire toward the end of a game, a signal for someone else to come in. Fortunately for Hanson and the Warriors, now such is not the case.

Instead of sitting on the bench and watching, Garner now is in the middle of the action. It's Hanson who watches. Happily.

—Lloyd Herberg

Interhigh

Carl Greene

Anacostia

Throughout the Interhigh league, unbeaten Anacostia, 5-0, is known to specialize in defense. Linebacker Carl Greene is only one of the 11 Indians who has permitted opponents a meager 12 points this season.

The smallest linebacker in coach Wyman Colona's tough 4-4 alignment, Green has come up with a number of big plays. The 5-foot-10, 170-pound senior recovered a fumble against Dunbar, intercepted a pass to stop a drive in Anacostia's 22-13 victory over Eastern, and came up with his best effort Friday in the Indian's 24-0 shellacking of Ballou.

Greene, called "Mean Joe" by his teammates, had nine tackles and anchored an Anacostia defense that held the frustrated Knights to two (2) yards on offense. He came up with a jewel of a play in the final quarter as he burst through a gap in the Ballou line, blocked a punt, chased down the ball and fell on it in the end zone for a touchdown.

"With Darryl (Hercules) Paterson, Theodore (Robinson) and (William) Douglas on the defensive line putting that good pressure on up front, it makes our job a little bit easier," said Green.

Allen Chin, Anacostia's athletic director, said, "One of Carl's attributes is that he is able to read offenses so well. He seems to sense what play is coming and is always near the ball. His quickness doesn't hurt him either."

Greene speaks highly of his teammates and coaching staff. "Coach Colona has taught us an awful lot, and he really believes in team togetherness," he said.

If "Mean Joe" and his teammates continue to dominate opponents as they have thus far, that trip to RFK Stadium for the city championship is just a 10-minute bus ride across the bridge.

—Donald Huff

Private

Mike Jones

Bullis

Mike Jones must have had his radio blaring Friday.

"I like to listen to loud music before a game," said Jones. "It tenses me up and I can't be still, so I know I'm ready to play."

Jones rushed for 183 yards on 35 carries and scored one touchdown to help Bullis to its first win of the season, a 37-0 romp over previously unbeaten and unscored on Flint Hill.

The 5-foot-10, 165-pound freshman always is ready to play, according to coach Neil Gargano.

"In our first preseason scrimmage against Gonzaga, Jones found the only piece of glass on the field and wound up with nine stitches in his left hand," recalled Gargano.

That was a Saturday. On Monday Jones was back on the practice field ready for a full scrimmage.

"I had to tell him to just put on his shirt and shorts and go out and run. He's a super ball player with a fantastic attitude."

Because of the hand injury Jones saw limited action against Bullis' initial opponents, Quantico and St. Albans, yet managed a two-game total of 115 yards in 21 carries.

"He has the fastest acceleration off the ball I have ever seen," said Gargano. "He looks like he has a rocket attached to him."

At one practice session Jones ran a 4.6 40-yard sprint in stocking feet.

Jones, who turned 15 last month, is playing in his second year of organized football. Last year he scored 11 touchdowns as a tailback for the Marriott Super Bowl champion Wheaton Boys Club in the 135-pound division.

His coach last year, Dick Mantell, is the assistant football coach at Bullis and encouraged Jones to come to Bullis on a scholarship.

And along with his music tastes Jones brought his attitude with him.

"Bullis is supposed to be a losing team this year," he said. "But I haven't got used to losing yet. Last year we lost only one game."

—Larry Blonder